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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	Not Assigned Yet	
			Filing Date	On even date herewith	
			First Named Inventor	AOTA, KINYA	
			Art Unit	3635	
			Examiner Name	R. Canfield	
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	503.35255VX1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
KS 		US-5,388,529	1995		Tieberghien et al.	
		US-5,979,742	1999		Enomoto et al.	
		US-3,849,871	1974		Kaunitz	
		US-5,794,835	1998		Colligan, et al.	
		US-5,460,317	1995		Thomas, et al.	
KS		US-5,140,913	1982		Takeichi, et al.	
		US-5,098,007	1992		Tsuruda, et al.	
		US-				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)		MM-DD-YYYY			
KS		JP 57-112813		1980			
		JP 54-11250		1979			
		JP 7-266068		1995			
		JP 10-216964		1998			
		JP 60-166177		1985			
		JP 51-111925		1975			
		JP 6-156272		1994			
		JP 7-33016		1996			
		JP 0 579 500 A1		1994			
		WO 83/10935		1993			

Examiner Signature	<i>W. J. L...</i>	Date Considered	12/14/04
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard SL3). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	Not Assigned Yet
		Filing Date	On even date herewith
		First Named Inventor	AOTA, KINYA
		Group Art Unit	3635
		Examiner Name	R. Canfield
Sheet 2	of 2	Attorney Docket Number	503.35255VX1

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
KS		Friction Stir Process Welds Aluminum Alloys, Welding Journal, American Welding Society, Vo. 75, No. 3 (1996)	
		Light Metal Welding Vol. 33, No. 7, pp. 19-26 (1995)	
		Two Prints dated June 23, 1993 showing details from a video from the Welding Institute	
	✓	Verksstaderna Nr 2, pp. 32 and 34 (1996)	
		Advanced Materials & Processes, pp. 22-23, (1993)	
		Metalworking Technology Europe, Sterline Publication, pp. 143-145, (1994)	
		An Introduction to Friction Stir Welding and Its Development, by CJ Dawes, Welding & Metal Fabrication, pp. 13-16, (1995)	
	✓	Welding and Material Fabrication, Vol. 63, No. 1, pp. 13-16, January (1995)	
	✓	The 2 nd International Forum on Aluminum Ships/Conference Proceedings, "Leading the Way", November 22-23 (1995), front page, §III (contents), 4.0 New joining technologies for ship constructions	
		Aluminum Technology Handbook, Light Metal Association, June 16 (1985), front page, contents, pp. 1682-1693, back page	
	✓	Verk Standerna, front page, page 3, (table for contents), page 5, pp. 32-34	
	✓	Sventsaren, Vol. No. 3, front page, contents, pp. 5-6, (1995)	
	✓	Billentin 6, November/December (1995), front page, contents, pp. 124-127, 142, back page	
KS	✓	The 4 th International Conference on: Aluminum Alloys, Vol. 1, Conference Proceedings, September 11-16, (1994), front page, contents, pp. 451-457	

Examiner Signature	<i>R. Canfield</i>	Date Considered	12/14/04
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